

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01343 181941Z
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 OES-02 L-01 SP-02 INR-05
CIAE-00 ARA-06 /034 W
-----182051Z 067163 /41
P 181910Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 681
SECDEF PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1343

LIMDIS

SECDEF FOR ISA/REINERTSON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, TD, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED EXTENSION AGREEMENT FOR OMEGA
STATION TRINIDAD

1. DURING VISIT OF MR. JOHN REINERTSON (DOD/ISA) TO
PORT OF SPAIN ON MAY 16, WE REVIEWED DRAFT OF PROPOSED
OMEGA TRINIDAD EXTENSION PROPOSAL NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN
WASHINGTON. IN REVIEWING THIS DRAFT, EMBASSY BELIEVES
PRESENT PARAGRAPH SEVEN DOES NOT OFFER CONTINUANCE OF
APPROPRIATE FREE ENTRY PRIVILEGES FOR UNITED STATES
CITIZEN PERSONNEL OF THE STATION. DRAFT LANGUAGE
APPROPRIATELY WILL COVER EQUIPMENT FOR THE STATION
ITSELF, BUT ON THE BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE HERE AND
GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO (GOTT) ATTENTIVENESS
TO SUCH MATTERS, BELIEVE GOTT WOULD NOT INTERPRET
LANGUAGE AS EXTENDING TO PRIVILEGES FOR PERSONNEL
INVLOVED. SINCE WE ASSUME NO PRACTICAL DIMINISHMENT
OF PRESENT PRIVILEGES IS INTENDED, AND THAT TO DO SO
WOULD BE SEVERE MORALE PROBLEM FOR OPERATING PERSONNEL.,
EMBASSY PROPOSES INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL SUB-PARAGRAPH
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IN DRAFT AGREEMENT.

2. OUR PROPOSAL WOULD SIMPLY CONTINUE THE CONDITIONS
FOR EXEMPTIONS OF CUSTOMS DUTIES AND LOCAL TAXES WHICH
PRESENTLY APPLY, AND THE DRAFT LANGUAGE IS TAKEN
LARGELY FROM THE GOTT IMPLEMENTING ORDINANCE RELATING
TO THE 1961 DEFENSE AREAS AGREEMENT. THIS IS ALSO

CONSONANT WITH THE PRIVILEGES ACCORDED TECHNICAL
PERSONNEL UNDER THE VIENNA CONVENTION FORMULAE.
SUGGESTED DRAFT FOR ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPH (TO BE
INSERTED BETWEEN PRESENT PARAGRAPHS SEVEN AND
EIGHT) FOLLOWS:

3. QUOTE: NO IMPORT OR EXPORT DUTY OF CUSTOMS
SHALL BE IMPOSED ON THE PERSONAL EFFECTS AND HOUSEHOLD
GOODS (INCLUDING PRIVATE MOTOR CARS) OF UNITED STATES
CITIZEN CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL IMPORTED BY SUCH
PERSONNEL AT THE TIME OF THEIR FIRST ARRIVAL IN
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO OR, IF RELATED TO SUCH ARRIVAL,
WITHIN SIX MONTHS THEREAFTER. UNITED STATES CITIZEN
CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM INCOME
TAX BY THE GOVERNMENT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ON
THE SALARY AND OTHER EMOLUMENTS RECEIVED IN THEIR
CAPACITY AS CONTRACT PERSONNEL UNDER THIS AGREEMENT,
AND SHALL NOT INCUR LIABILITY FOR ANY TAX, DUTY OR
LICENSE OR OTHER CHARGE IMPOSED ON ANY TANGIBLE
MOVABLE PROPERTY LOCATED IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
SOLELY BY REASON OF THIS AGREEMENT. UNQUOTE.
RICH

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Message Attributes

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